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The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I understand that the procedure is that when a promise of inquiry is made in answer to a question, it is open to the hon. Member to put a further question. Unless we definitely promise to lay the papers on the table it has never been understood that a promise to make an inquiry implies placing the papers on the table."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I wish to know what the intention or the practice of the Government is in this matter. If it is the intention and the practice of the Government that where an inquiry is promised the result will not be placed before the House unless it is revived (the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp : Not necessarily) by means of a question, then it will be for me and for the House to take further steps in the matter. I thought that a matter of this kind would be brought up again by the Government *propres motu.*"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" The present is a special case, inasmuch as we have not answered the question. It thus is not on all fours with the general issue raised. This question I take it is whether further answers to this particular question will be given."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Tnat is to say whether this question will be treated as pending."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" That is a matter for your ruling, Sir. If this is treated as pending because that we have not answered the question implies that we will give a further answer."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Particulary because the answer to this question contains the words 'answers to further questions' which I understand are the further questions comprised in this very question, 'will be considered on their receipt.' I think it necessarily implies that the Government will place the whole answer on the table."

Settlements under Criminal Tribes Act.

Religious instruction to the members of the Pallavaram Criminal Settlement.

*299 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the arrangements, if any, which have been made for the instruction to the members of the Pallavaram Criminal Settlement in the religions in which they were born ;

(*b*) the facilities, if any, afforded to them for the exercise of their religious rites ;

(*c*) whether any compulsion direct or indirect is brought to bear upon them to become Christians ; and

(*d*) the number of conversions among the members of the Settlement ?

A.—(*a*) No arrangements have been made.

(*b*) Each individual has the right to perform his religious ceremonies.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) About twelve members have voluntarily accepted Christianity.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*a*) of this question, may I ask whether any arrangements are made for Christian missionaries to propagate their religion among the members of the Pallavaram Criminal Settlement ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I have no information to that effect."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*), may I take it that the members of this settlement voluntarily embraced Christianity going out of their way from the settlement and seeking light from the missionaries working there? What is the basis of this answer? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" The Government have not been asked to make any arrangement in this matter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask who is in charge of this settlement? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" The Salvation Army."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Are these people in secular charge of the settlement or are they also allowed to preach their religion there? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" They are not prohibited from preaching their religion though they are in secular charge of the settlement."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask whether the Government have any objection for these people making their own arrangements for religious instruction? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I must ask for notice."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether any other religionists can be allowed to go and preach to them their religion? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I do not think there would be any objection so far as the Government is concerned. But if the question is put to the Salvation Army agents they might object. May I suggest that the best way of testing that would be for some one to make the experiment."

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know why the Salvation Army of all people was put in charge of this settlement? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" They were the only agency who undertook to do the work for us."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Government did not approach other religious preachers."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I do not think the question arises."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" Is it open to the Salvation Army to preach any other religion? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" They do not preach any other religion. It is on that ground that I suggested to my hon. Friend opposite they might make the experiment of sending preachers of other religions to the settlement."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer given by the hon. the Home Member that it is open to the Salvation Army to raise objections to members of other religions going to the settlement and preaching,—supposing they do raise an objection what will be the attitude of the Government? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I am afraid, Sir, we must wait and see."